

# MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

VOL. X—No. 17

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1947

WHOLE No. 481

## Laundry Workers, Cleaners Hold Salinas Meetings

Laundry Workers Union 258 and Dry Cleaners Union 258-B held separate meetings last week, both transacting routine business of similar nature, Business Representative John W. Deer, of both organizations, reports.

The laundry workers initiated 2 new members at their meeting, the dry cleaners 9 new members.

Both unions voted thanks to committees which arranged union Christmas parties and dinners, and both unions appointed persons to assist the Central Labor Council Christmas Party for Children last Sunday.

Success of recently signed contracts was discussed briefly at both meetings, Deer added.

In Monterey, he concluded, organization of laundry workers is progressing well.

## Unionist Fetes 90th Birthday

Mrs. Helen Garcia, an employee of C. B. Gentry Company, informs us that her husband, Albert Garcia, born in Watsonville, and a life long resident of the Central Coast Area, celebrated his 90th birthday Saturday in his Gilroy home at 57 S. Chestnut Street. For the first time in many years a party marked his natal day. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bee, Mrs. Lena Galindo of all of San Jose; Mrs. Frances Camacho, Gilroy; Mrs. Stella Mata-scher, Mrs. Helen Voyvody, both of Watsonville; Frank Bennis-court, Oakland; Mrs. Ed Mendu, Watsonville; Frank Bettencourt, Oakland, and Billy Martin of Palo Alto. Thanks to the complete records kept of native Californians in the olden days at the missions, he found out somewhat belatedly that his natal day is December 6th.

A good many of Garcia's 90 years have slipped by with no birthday parties because for a long time he didn't know the date of his birth. Tied in with this circumstance is the fact that although he still goes by the first name of Albert, he also found out that his first name is really Jose.

It probably all started because Garcia's mother died when he was very small. Mothers are great ones for remembering birthdays, and they don't make mistakes about their little boy's first names. Garcia and his brother and sister went to live with an aunt, Mrs. Jim Carter in San Jose who had lost a son of her own named Albert, and she called little Jose by this name, causing him to forget that he had ever had another.

He was reunited with his father who worked at the Almaden mines in the Mt. Hamilton range, and the name Albert stuck as he moved about the country from Vancouver to Mexico to the San Joaquin Valley and finally to San Jose where he lived for many years.

Garcia and his wife attended a pageant at Mission San Juan Bautista several years ago where he conversed with the Mission priest, the Rev. F. J. Caffrey who asked him where he was from and his age. When Garcia replied that he had lost track of birthdays the priest suggested that his birth record might possibly be in the old mission files. After a search the priest was not only able to tell him that he had been born Dec. 6, 1856, but that he was not Albert at all, but Jose Norberto Garcia.

## Children Feted At Salinas Labor Christmas Party

Organized labor, headed by the Central Labor Council of Monterey County, combined last Sunday evening to present a party for all children of the Salinas area.

Committees were very active in planning the affair and union members and friends worked diligently to make all arrangements.

Full details will be given in a later issue of the Monterey County Labor News.

## 1000 Tons Fish For Monterey

More than 1000 tons of fish were trucked in to Monterey's "Cannery Row" last week by heavy trucks coming from Port Hueneme and Santa Barbara.

Fourteen canneries were operating, mostly on horse mackerel and with a few sardines.

## Labor Council At Salinas Picks Secretary Jan. 9

Election of a new secretary to succeed Peter A. Andrade, who resigned earlier this month, has been scheduled for Friday, January 9, President Carl Lara of the Council announced last week.

Meetings of the Council scheduled for December 26 and January 2 were cancelled because of the holidays, Lara added.

Andrade, secretary of Teamsters 890, resigned the Labor Council post because of lack of time to devote to the work of the position. His union has tripled its jurisdiction and organizational programs are in full swing, he said.

Nominations were accepted by the Council at last Friday night's meeting for the coming secretarial election.

## Painters Busy At Permanente On Big Job

Painters are busy these days painting both plants of the Permanente Metals Corp. at Moss Landing and Natividad, Business Representative Carl Lara of Painters 1104 reports.

J. H. Moore, San Francisco painting contractor, has been put in charge of the project and is using a number of local men from No. 1104.

Men are busy both inside and outside the plants, sand blasting, spraying and doing some brush work, Lara said. The job is expected to take several more days.

**TO MEMBERS OF LOCAL 1104:** If you are not receiving your official journal from the International Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, please stop in at the union offices, fill out a postcard with your name and address, and the journal will be sent to you.

These change of address cards and notices to send the journal are for your convenience.

CARL LARA,  
Secretary.

## Electricians Party Tuesday Of This Week

The annual Christmas party of Electrical Workers Union 243 of Salinas is scheduled for tonight (Tuesday, December 23) at the Bird's Nest at the Army Air Base, Business Representative Carl Lara of this union reports.

Members of the arrangements committee met last Saturday noon to complete arrangements for the affair, which is for members and friends. Invitations must be presented in order to get in, Lara added.

Snell Electric Co. of King City has signed intention of signing an agreement with Local 243, Lara said.

Radiant Homes, Inc. of Monterey has announced plans to build conventional type prefabricated houses at a new plant in Salinas and installation of electrical equipment at their plant is under way, he added.

## Joint Party Set for Jan. 13 By Culinary 467, Bartenders 545

Plans for a joint party for members and guests of Culinary Alliance 467 and Bartenders Union 545, both of Salinas, were announced this week by Bertha A. Boles, secretary of Local 467.

The party will be held at the "Bird's Nest," at the Salinas Army Air Base. All banquet halls of the former airman's restaurant will be utilized for the affair.

## BURNS \$1,000

When a member of Teamsters Union 890 failed to pay his union dues by the first of the month and let his membership lapse—he actually "burned up" or destroyed \$1000 which should belong to his wife and children.

The member met with untimely death but because he was not in good standing his family failed to receive the \$1000, which had been set aside through a reliable insurance company as a death benefit for this brother.

**MORAL:** Pay your dues—keep in good standing.

## Butchers Urge U. S. Inspection Of Meats Again

The A. F. of L.'s tri-state conference of butcher unions, representing over fifty thousand butcher workmen in California, Oregon, and Washington, today launched an all-out campaign for the restoration of the federal government's meat inspection program, Earl A. Moorhead, secretary of Butchers Union 506 of San Jose, announced.

The 41-year-old federal meat inspection program, whereby the federal government maintains inspectors at meat-packing plants throughout the nation to insure that cattle slaughtered for human consumption are free of disease, was terminated by Congress last July in what the butchers' unions condemned as "a penny-wise, pound-foolish, so-called economy move led by Representative Everett Dirksen of Illinois."

Pointing out that the 11-million-dollar annual inspection program had protected the health of the American people at an average cost of less than 8 cents per person since 1906, butchers' union spokesmen urged the public to flood Congress with letters demanding the restoration of federal inspection by the government.

"If meat inspection is turned back to the meat packers, this so-called economy move will merely result in the packers adding the cost of inspection to the price of meat," Moorhead stated. "Furthermore, inspectors directly on the packers' payrolls will naturally tend to hold their employers' interests higher than the public welfare."

"Meat inspectors should be absolutely free to do their job without regard to anything other than offering the American people the greatest possible protection against diseased meat. The only way this can be accomplished is through a federal meat inspection program."

The butchers' unions particularly urged the participation of local community organizations in an effort to compel Congress to restore the federal meat inspection program at the earliest possible moment.

## News Items About APPRENTICES

The Apprentice of Today Is the Journeyman of Tomorrow

### SALINAS VALLEY AREA

#### AUTOMOTIVE TRADES JAC

The committee's action was called to the fact that school attendance was extremely poor, endangering the entire program. After considerable consideration, the secretary was instructed to: (1) prepare a resolution outlining penalties to be imposed on apprentices who do not live up to their agreements; (2) prepare a letter to employers and apprentices, outlining joint obligations in respect to the over-all objective of the training program; (3) prepare a plan to properly evaluate apprentices before they are indentured; (4) institute a work experience and school attendance record for each apprentice.

## CULINARY 467 SEATS OFFICERS

Culinary Alliance 467 of Salinas installed officers at the union's last meeting. International Representative C. T. McDonough serving as installing officer.

McDonough spoke briefly to the union membership, obligated the new officers, and presented new President Cecil Hauntz with a new gavel.

The union gave McDonough an ovation upon return of the union, which has been under international trusteeship, to local autonomy. Two new members were initiated, according to Secretary Bertha Boles, who had been elected without opposition after serving as secretary during the trusteeship.

## Monterey Fair Set Sept. 23

Dates for the Monterey County Fair at Monterey have been set for September 23-26, Fred S. McCargar, secretary-manager, reports.

McCargar formerly was secretary of the California Rodeo at Salinas and of the Salinas Chamber of Commerce, doing an excellent job in both capacities prior to becoming secretary of the county fair.

# True People's Mandate Is 1948 Goal

### Bear in Mind at Xmas Time!



Season's Greetings and Best Wishes to all friends—members of trade unions, women's auxiliaries, union label leagues and others—who have so ardently supported our worthy cause by patronizing only firms that display the Union Label, Shop Card, or Button.

J. M. Ornburn  
Secretary-Treasurer

Union Label Trades Department—American Federation of Labor

## New Prosecution Of AFL Musicians Asked by Hartley

Washington (LPA)—The Taft-Hartley law should be "strengthened" and additional anti-labor legislation should be enacted to hog-tie the American Federation of Musicians (AFL), according to a report made recently by the House Labor Committee, headed by Representative Fred Hartley (R., N.J.).

The committee urged the Justice Department to open new prosecutions of the AFM and President James C. Petrillo for "offenses in violation of the Lea (anti-Petrillo) Act" and to study the possibility of prosecuting him and the union under the anti-trust laws.

The report claimed that the AFM and Petrillo "still commit acts in restraint of trade; exercise monopolistic control over all commercial phases of musical production; license producers of recordings, radio and movies . . ."

Hartley has frequently indicated his desire to subject unions to the federal anti-trust laws. Petrillo is scheduled to go on trial in Chicago on December 30 on an indictment charging violation of the Lea Act.

## Mexico Expected To Renew Rent Controls

Mexico City. — Despite heavy pressure from landlord groups, the Mexican Congress is expected to renew rent controls for another year. The Mexican rent control law, designed to protect low-income groups, imposes prewar ceilings on homes, offices and stores. Top ceiling allowed is 300 pesos (\$62) per month. The Congress has appointed a special committee to insure that rent control legislation is enforced.

## IN CANADA TOO—A DOLLAR AIN'T A DOLLAR ANYMORE

Ottawa. — Canadian workers, now demanding that the government roll back and control prices, find a glaring demonstration of inflation when they cash in their war savings certificates, equivalent to U. S. war bonds.

During the war, Canadians purchased war savings certificates for \$4, which can now be cashed in for \$5. But the \$5 they are worth today doesn't buy nearly as much as the \$4 they cost when they went on sale in 1940.

Ottawa store ads show that in 1940 the \$4 would have bought two dozen eggs, 70c; two pounds of bacon, 50c; four pounds of roast beef, \$1; two pounds of butter, 62c; one pound of coffee, 31c; a can of cocoa, 19c; three cans of pork and beans, 25c; three bunches of celery, 18c; a dozen oranges, 25c. Total \$4.

Today the \$5 buys two dozen eggs, \$1.40; two pounds of butter, \$1.54; two pounds of bacon, \$1.56; one pound of coffee, 50c. Total, \$5.

With \$1 more to spend, the beef, celery, pork and beans, oranges and cocoa are all missing.

## Labor Can't Live With Slave Law

Too often now it seems that there is expressed the opinion that organized labor has to live with the Taft-Hartley slave law, when the truth is it cannot live with the slave law, anymore than the lamb can live with the wolf. There should be a thunderous demand of all organized labor that the Congress now in session repeal the Taft-Hartley act immediately to keep faith with the people of this nation and to maintain the respect of the world for our form of government.—Minneapolis Labor Review, AFL.

## Butchers Seek New Contracts

Butchers Union 506 of San Jose is in negotiation for new contracts for various divisions, Secretary Earl A. Moorhead reports.

At a meeting with representatives of various abattoirs in four counties and the San Jose Employers Council last week, the employers asked that the meetings be extended to include representatives of by-product plants.

The meetings are in regard to adjustment of wage schedules covering workers in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties, Moorhead said.

A meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 29, at San Jose Labor Temple (8 p.m.) for wholesale fish butchers and retail fish butchers in regard to their contract demands, Moorhead added.

At Salinas, employers of union butcher shops met with the City Council last week in regard to a closing ordinance for butcher shops, such as in effect in San Jose, Gilroy, Hollister and other major cities. The City Council postponed action on the ordinance pending a public hearing on the matter on January 5.

## JOE EKLUND NEW AGENT, LOCAL 296

Joseph Eklund has been named business agent of Sales and Delivery Teamsters 296 of San Jose and Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties, succeeding C. P. "Kelly" Edwards, who passed away two weeks ago, Secretary George W. Jennott of Local 296 reports.

Bro. Jennott also asked that the Christmas greetings and wishes for a Happy New Year be extended to all members from the officers and office workers of Local 296.

## Intensive Work Is Begun by 3 Big Labor Units

WASHINGTON (LPA)—Leaders of the AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and the Int'l Association of Machinists last week whipped into shape their plans for militant political action during 1948.

Committees of each group worked intensively on programs for fund-raising and on other details of the new political machinery.

In the case of the AFL, President William Green also went on a national hook-up to explain the purposes of the AFL Labor's Educational and Political League, as set up at the conference earlier of chiefs of 105 national and international unions.

"The purpose of this league," Green said, "is to obtain a real mandate from all the American people in the 1948 elections. Many millions of eligible American citizens did not vote in 1946. . . . As a direct consequence, the forces of greed and reaction were able to capture control of Congress."

Green reviewed the record of this GOP Congress—passage of the Taft-Hartley Act, destruction of price controls, pigeon-holing of all social welfare proposals.

### REVERSE IT IN '48

"We of labor do not want that kind of government," Green said. "We are certain the vast majority of the American people have no use for it either. That is why we have decided to organize machinery to convince our own union members and the voters at large that the reactionary trend must be halted and reversed in 1948."

Green stressed that the political league will be financed entirely by voluntary contributions and that no union member can or will be compelled to support the League. "But we expect our call for contributions of not less than \$1 per member will be answered enthusiastically by all 8,000,000 members of the AFL," he said.

### MONEY IS NEEDED

"Why should the League need so much money for any election, you may ask," Green went on. "The answer is that it takes millions of dollars these days to carry on an effective educational and political campaign."

Green declared that the League will find it necessary to conduct large-scale newspaper advertising, radio broadcasts and other educational activities to offset anti-labor propaganda and get labor's case to the public.

An important objective of the League will be to make available to the voters the records of each candidate for Congress, he said.

"Let me make it clear," he stressed, "that if a candidate for Congress voted for the Taft-Hartley Act, he cannot hope to obtain the endorsement of the League."

### HOUSECLEANING IN D.C.

"I have no hesitation in stating what we are trying to do. We are trying to bring about a housecleaning of Congress, a much-needed eviction of those false representatives of the people whose only loyalty is to big business and great wealth. We hope to defeat all of them."

In the case of the Railroad Brotherhoods, chiefs of 20 of the organizations have set up Railway Labor's Political League in order to mobilize their 1,250,000 members, as well as their families and friends, to register and vote in 1948.

Major objectives, as set forth in the League's by-laws, are: "to encourage rail workers to vote more fully and effectively" than ever before; to distribute complete information on the voting records and attitudes of candidates, particularly on problems affecting rail workers; and to inform the railmen on the opinions of their organizations with respect to the qualifications of candidates.

As indicated by Brown's acceptance of the post of secretary-treasurer in Railway Labor's Political League, the Machinists will work cooperatively with that organization, as well as with the AFL League and other sympathetic groups.

IAM officials a week ago established the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League, with a goal of \$1,000,000 in voluntary donations among the 624,000 members of the union and their friends. This week, A. J. Hayes, IAM vice president

## AFL Prepares for '48



To lick the labor-haters who passed the Taft-Hartley law, the AFL's newly formed Labor's Educational and Political League plans to raise \$8 million—a dollar apiece from each AFL member. Pres. William Green announced December 5 after a meeting of 105 union presidents.

## Brave NLRB Man Dismisses Case Filed by Denham

Washington. — An NLRB trial examiner, acting with little apparent care for his own job, has recommended dismissal of a complaint issued by none other than his boss, NLRB General Counsel Robert N. Denham, charging the strike was called to force the company to violate its contract with the United Boot and Shoe Workers (AFL).

What happened in this, the first trial examiner's decision since the new law took effect August 22, follows:

The Perry Norvell Co. at Huntington, W. Va., fired Pat Tyree, a worker, and on its refusal to reinstate him, the strike began spontaneously August 21, 1947 while the plant was under contract with the AFL union, against which Ruckel said there had been some dissatisfaction.

Then the company filed unfair labor practice charges against the United Shoe Workers (CIO) and the Perry-Norvell Shoe Workers Committee (unaffiliated), charging them with interfering with the right of the AFL local to represent the workers.

Efforts of the AFL local to get the men to return to work proved ineffective, and on August 25 the unaffiliated committee was formed and the plant was effectively tied up until October 21, when the company attempted to reopen it despite picketing.

Trial Examiner Ruckel declared that the strike did not take place until the management's "final rejection of the request of Local 613 (AFL), and the employees, that Tyree be reinstated to his job." He said it seems clear that "the peaceful means" available to the employees were exhausted, "and that the strike which followed was not in violation of the contract, and it is so found."

**"NO COERCION"**  
Ruckel said there was "no actual restraint or coercion exercised by the respondents herein, or their agents," and that the theory of Boss Denham has no substance whatever. Denham's theory was that "any strike which takes place during the term of a collective bargaining agreement constitutes, of itself, coercion and restraint of employees in the exercise of rights guaranteed them under Section 7 of the act."

The trial examiner therefore recommended that the complaint "be dismissed in its entirety." His recommendation will remain in force if not questioned by the parties within 20 days. But if the employer or one of the parties files exceptions, the issues will go to the NLRB itself for formal determination.

and secretary-treasurer of that league, announced that three types of membership will be offered: honorary memberships, for \$2 contributions; active memberships, for \$5, and sponsoring memberships, for \$25 or more.



## MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

A CALIFORNIA LABOR PRESS PUBLICATION

Office at Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro Street, Salinas, California  
Entered as Second Class Matter February 20, at the Postoffice at  
Salinas, California, Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

Official Organ of the Central Labor Union of Monterey County, Salinas, Calif.  
Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, Monterey, California.  
Monterey County Building Trades Council, Monterey, Calif.

PRESS COMMITTEE AT SALINAS J. L. Parsons, Barbers R. Fenchel, Laborers  
A. A. Harris, Teamsters

PRESS COMMITTEE AT MONTEREY  
Wayne Edwards, Representing Central Labor Council  
Dale Ward, Representing Building Council.

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Six Months 1.50  
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Post Office Box 1410, Salinas, California.

All copy must be in not later than Tuesday noon, preceding date of publication.  
The editorial policy of this paper is not reflected in any way by the advertise-  
ments or signed communications printed herein.

## Victory for French Strikers

After a month of hectic strikes, which at their height involved three million workers, very substantial wage increase offers induced the strikers to accept them and call the strike off. Their chief demand was for an increase in their wages from 7,000 francs a month to a new rate of 10,800 francs.

At the beginning of the strike leaders of the anti-labor government blustered loudly that they would not even discuss new working conditions until the workers had first returned to work. But later on this unfriendly and unwilling government changed front and agreed to guarantee a raise to 10,000 francs a month, plus some retroactive pay. This is an increase of 43 per cent. Acceptance of this offer ended the strike.

Translating all this into dollars, the French workers were getting only \$58 a month when they went out on strike. They asked for \$90 a month and finally compromised at \$83, which means an increase of \$25 a month.

In view of the tremendous effort put forth to break this strike, the substantial victory won by the strikers becomes all the more significant. Both the army and freshly passed anti-labor laws were used in an attempt to crush the spirit of the strikers, but enough of them held firm to enable them to win most of their demands.

## Horatio Alger Is Dead

Horatio Alger was a lad who worked hard and long, married the boss's daughter and became the boss. That was long, long ago. Now nobody believes in Horatio any more and this makes the National Association of Manufacturers very unhappy. Horatio "was such a great public relations story!" they wailed at their recent three-day convention.

The NAM would like to go back to the "good old 10-hour day, 60-hour week" of Horatio's time. But organized workers who want to go forward will bury the NAM's reactionary program by making political action live.

## NAM Tells the World

In order to counter growing anger about high prices, high profits and low wages, the National Association of Manufacturers will launch a gigantic public relations program of its own to whitewash the \$17½ billion in profits stacked away by industry in 1947, a 40 per cent increase over '46.

Also to be boomed through the vast NAM propaganda network will be the idea that monopoly ain't so bad, that the Taft-Hartley law will "save" labor, and that foreign nations which want U. S. aid should give up nationalization and price control.

The latter policy may be known simply as "The world is NAM's oyster" or "Why should Europe be un-American?"

## "Advice" to Workers

Out-going National Association of Manufacturers' President Earl Bunting advised trade unionists to stop talking about raises and buckle down to work. Lagging production, he said, is the reason for increased living costs. Apparently Mr. Bunting is not aware of the stubborn refusal of the steel companies to expand production in the face of a crying need for steel for both domestic and foreign consumption. The steel workers' union has been fighting to have production increased, but the NAM doesn't deal in the facts.

Not content with pushing a speed-up plan, industrialists are also primed to make full use of the Taft-Hartley law for busting unions (oops, "saving" labor), to mix in their internal affairs and to fight the wage-hour law. Terming the 40-hour work week a "heritage of days of planned scarcity . . . of the Dead Deal . . ." Charles E. Wilson, president of General Motors, called for "a repudiation of these reactionary and inflationary policies."

Such talk as this and the truly reactionary and inflationary policies that arise from it will surely be repudiated when Americans go to the polls in '48.

## Just What Is Progress?

One of our contemporaries got hold of a copy of that much-mentioned menu of Delmonico's in 1834 and proceeded to do a little figuring. In 1834 at Delmonico's you could get soup for 2 cents, coffee for 1 cent, beef steak for 4 cents and a half of a pie for 2 cents. A good wage in those days was \$7 a week. A good wage today would be \$70 a week. Now, the \$7-a-week worker in 1834 could buy a good dinner at Delmonico's and spend one-sixtieth of his week's pay for that dinner. Today, in 1947, for the \$70-a-week worker to get the same kind of a dinner he would have to spend one-thirty-fourth of his week's pay. Our critic says there's no future in this sort of thing!

## Season's Message

By C. J. HAGGERTY  
Secretary, California Federation  
of Labor

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

(CFLNL) San Francisco.

Poverty, hunger and pestilence stalk the world. Millions of unfortunate people have been degraded to a sub-human level of existence. They are frantically reaching out for deliverance from a fate that has not yet sunk to a bottomless despair. At no time in history has mankind faced a grimmer challenge than the present one and the answer will determine whether mankind will ascend toward the light or plunge into the abyss.

The recent brutal and crucial wave of violent disorder that gripped Europe in an unrelenting and murderous clutch is only a rehearsal of what is to come. If such a future is to be averted, it must be faced with all of the courage at our command.

A number of lessons can be derived from what has occurred, the knowledge of which is significant to us in America and especially to those of us who are members of organized labor. No one can deny that in England, where there is a powerful and free labor movement, the people were spared the bloody turbulence which victimized France and Italy. This proves conclusively that where there is democracy and a security of living, even though under severe restrictions, the workers cannot be used as pawns in the struggle for power by the ruthless and hideous Stalinists.

Human misery, breeding mass discontent, is the condition which makes possible the bloody maneuvers of the Stalinist hordes in their mad drive to rule the world or leave it in ruins. Already millions of workers duped by their own extreme circumstances, have been mercilessly victimized. It is they who in the end pay the dearest price for their exploitation.

No one in his right senses can ignore the European events and their implications for us in this country. Isolationism in the present conditions stands unmasked as a horrible affliction. It is precisely what the communists would like to encourage, thereby leaving them in control of a helpless Europe. That is why intervention by the United States cannot be postponed and is critically urgent.

Our policy of intervention must be geared to a plan that will establish home conditions. Not only must we give the necessary material help to a needy Europe, but we must add to this a program of cultural and political freedom which will route the forces of totalitarian reaction. It also means that the program must be based on solving our most pressing problems here at home.

A weak America cannot help Europe. A strong America is the only answer. To achieve this, it is imperative that inflation be controlled, but not at the expense of the workers. Prices must be rolled back. This will make unnecessary new wage demands. Labor must not be shackled with restrictive legislation and made the whipping post of those who are either too selfish or too ignorant to realize that a strong and powerful free trade union movement is the most effective antidote to Stalinism.

By widening our democratic base here at home we can be in a much stronger position to do likewise in Europe. Europe is sick from the frightfully fatal malady of totalitarianism. Only strong doses of democracy can save it. Those who have learned from what has happened over there are convinced that we cannot fight totalitarianism by using its weapons and following its methodology. Our only hope lies in democracy.

As the old year passes out, let us reaffirm our faith in democracy, and let us prepare ourselves to fight harder for its preservation in the year to come.

Labor stands to lose more than any other group under totalitarianism. It must and it will fight to the death against it. We of labor call upon our friends and our fellow Americans to join with us in this fight.

## SPEED UP DECISIONS IN ACCIDENT CASES

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

(CFLNL) San Francisco.

Referees in each office will be required to appear before their respective panels at least once each month and give satisfactory explanation why decisions have not been issued within sixty days after the first hearing in each individual case assigned to them. This was the action taken by the Industrial Accident Commission in November. This procedure is to be enforced by each panel and is effective now.

While recognizing that, in the vast majority of cases, the referees arrive at their conclusions and make their recommendations promptly after the first hearing in their respective cases, the Commission is now taking cognizance of a small percentage of cases where delay is involved. There has also been a tendency on the part of some referees to procrastinate.

The new procedure adopted by the Commission is very encouraging and should help to make for greater promptness of decision in a great number of cases and reduce the number of complaints and criticism that have been made.

## THE MARCH OF LABOR



## SIGN WARRANTS FOR ARREST OF THE MEN WHO RECRUITED SCABS FOR DI GIORGIO FARM

National Farm Labor Union representatives in El Paso, Texas, have signed warrants for the arrest of Joe Silva and John Reed for recruiting strikebreakers for the Di Giorgio Ranch in the San Joaquin Valley, California, where 1100 workers have been on strike for ten weeks. Affidavits have been collected connecting Silva and Reed with Walt Palladino, the contact man for the Di Giorgio corporation and have been turned over to the FBI. To date over 200 Mexican American workers have been imported from El Paso and smuggled through the picket lines by the company at night in an all out effort to break the strike and to get the 1200 men needed to prune the 17,000 acres of grapevines this time each year.

The union has collected affidavits from these workers stating that they were recruited from El Paso under false pretenses. They were not told that a strike is going on at the ranch; they were promised warm living quarters with hot and cold running water; and were promised permanent year-around jobs with Di Giorgio. This information is being turned over to the United States District Attorney in Los Angeles for violation of the Byrnes Act by the Di Giorgio Corporation.

The union's Spanish speaking organizer reports that almost immediately upon arrival these workers are dissatisfied and wish to leave Di Giorgio; but they are destitute, and they have no place to live if they leave the ranch. The National Farm Labor Union has made arrangements through their Fresno local to find jobs and housing for some of these unfortunate workers.

As feeling and tension continued to mount among the strikers and in the community against Di Giorgio's importation of a minority group to break the strike, the Strike Committee put out a letter to the communities of Arvin, Lamont, Weedpatch and Bakersfield, which says in part:

"We regard the advent of the Mexican-Americans from Texas as being extremely unfortunate. We bear no malice towards them, for we realize that they are unfortunately being used as 'strike-breakers' by the Di Giorgio Corporation—much the same as the Mexican Nationals are used by the big farming interests to lower prevailing wage standards."

On the legal phase of the strike, the opposition has become particularly arrogant. Tuesday morning, December 9th, in the Weedpatch court, Judge Parrish overruled the California State Federation of Labor Attorney Charles Scully's arguments that the 23 strikers' families living on the Di Giorgio Ranch should not be evicted because they had not terminated their employment with the company and that they had not been given proper notice to leave. The fight is not over and the strikers will remain in their homes on the ranch while further court action is pending.

On that same day nine ministers from Los Angeles came up to Bakersfield to make an impartial study of the strike situation. They talked to the pickets on the 19½-mile picket line, they spoke to the strike committee chairman, they visited the homes of the workers, and they talked to the Di Giorgio foremen and some of the non-strikers. They intend to write a thorough report on the visit, as regards to working conditions, housing, wages and hours of the Di Giorgio employees.

All labor has rallied to the support of the Di Giorgio Strikers. The Kern County Central Labor Council Di Giorgio Strike Relief Fund helps the strikers pay for their food and rent. Personal savings, where there were any, are gone by now, and the children may have a dreary Christmas unless all those interested in the fight contribute.

## GRIN or GROAN

AS THE IRISH PUT IT  
MIKE: "The trouble with Casey is he has no backbone."  
PAT: "Faith, he has backbone enough if he'd only bring it to the front."

"I dreamed last night that I had invented a new type of breakfast food and was sampling it when—"  
"Yes, yes, go on."  
"I woke up and found a corner of the mattress gone."

"Does your husband talk in his sleep?"  
"No, and it's most exasperating. He just grins."

"Mother, will college boys go to heaven?"  
"Yes, son, but they won't like it."

"Mom, may I ask Jimmie over here to play with my new toys?"  
"No, you'd make too much noise and muss up the house too much. You go over to his house."

PROFESSOR: "Name a liquid that won't freeze."  
FRESHMAN: "Hot water."

"That's a beautiful nurse you have."  
"I haven't noticed her."  
"Man, you're sicker than I thought!"

## BE ECONOMICAL

Donald and Mary decided to adopt a child, and asked at the orphanage for a little girl. One was produced and Mary was about to close the bargain when Donald tapped her shoulder.

"Mary," he whispered, "let's have a boy. Hae ye forgotten the lad's cap we found in the train?"

Daddy was showing his small son around the zoo. After being asked what the lions, tigers, bears, etc. were, the father was getting a little exhausted and his patience was nearly at an end.

Then they came to the monkey house, and the little boy said: "Daddy, what are they?"  
"I don't know," replied the father, "but by the look of the sawdust on the floor, they're carpenters."

"Why is Jones pacing back and forth so frantically?"  
"He is awfully worried about his wife."

"Why? What has she got?"  
"The car."

A writer of radio commercials entered a restaurant, called a waitress and said:

"Give me some ham, piping hot and fragrant with the pleasant aroma of cloves, brown sugar and steaming sauce. Serve it between slices of brown and crackly-crust-ed bread. Draw me a cup of delicious, flavorful coffee and add to it some thick, rich cream."

The waitress shrugged, turned toward the kitchen and yelled: "Smoked pig on rye and Java with."

Then there was the business agent who ordered all of the steel venetian blinds in his place removed and replaced with wooden ones. "They're not going to encircle me with any of those Iron Curtains," he explained.

He also placed a ban on the wearing of sweaters by the office girls. "I want no suspicion of 'Popular Fronts' attached to this office," he said.

One morning during the recent cold snap the stenographer came into the office with her teeth chattering. When asked what was the matter, she said: "I awoke at 2 o'clock this morning nearly frozen. Both feet were sticking out from under the covers."

"Well, why didn't you put them under the blankets?"

"I wouldn't let those cold things get in bed with me," she answered.

There was once a little baby rabbit who would not be content until finally mother rabbit told him that baby rabbits came from magicians' hats.

## WINDOW DRESSING

"Could I try on that red dress in the window?" asked the bright young thing.

"There's no need to do that," the elderly saleslady answered, coldly: "we have several fitting rooms."

## WHAT A DIFFERENCE

WILLIE: "What is the difference between capital and labor, dad?"

DAD: "Well, son, the money you lend represents capital and getting it back represents labor."

## NATURAL

An English tourist traveling in the north of Scotland, far away from anywhere, inquired of one of the natives:

"Why, what do you do when any of you are ill? You can never get a doctor."

"Nae, sir," replied Sandy. "We've just to die a natural death."

Accidents will happen. That's why there are so many different kinds of salads.

Overhear on a street corner: "That guy has a couple of quarts in his hip pockets, or else she is wearing slacks."

## ANTI-LABOR POLICY FOLLOWS THE AID U. S. SENDS ABROAD

By ISRAEL EPSTEIN

Americans don't like to be told what to think, even by their own government. They shouldn't find it hard, therefore, to understand how other peoples feel when governments are tailored for them in Washington, just because they've suffered in war and could do with a temporary lift from the U. S.

And what kind of government? The one in Greece was put together by U. S. Ambassador Lincoln McVeagh and aid administrator Dwight Griswold, as was stated frankly by every American paper at the time. Now it has gone from fighting peasant guerrillas to forbidding peaceful strikes, on pain of death for leaders and "agitators."

Associated Press reports that the U. S. embassy was mildly distressed at the Greek move as bad public relations. But there was no hint of withdrawing U. S. support from the regime that made it, and which itself was made here.

## SHOOT DOWN STRIKERS

Now let's take the Italian government, which also shoots down strikers. Help to this outfit is part of the first Marshall plan appropriations now being debated in Congress.

Undersec. of State Robert A. Lovett (partner in Brown Bros. Harriman & Co. of Wall Street) has just promised that aid will stop if Italy goes left, even by democratic vote. This is telling the Italians to run their affairs by Lovett's standards—or no food.

Exhibit three is China, Rep. W. Sterling Cole (R., N.Y.), chairman of a House armed services subcommittee which has been discussing "aid" there, said in Washington Nov. 22 that "the U. S. should obtain permanent use of naval facilities at Tsingtao, in northern China."

He also declared that "despite admitted corruption in the Nationalist (Chiang Kai-shek) government, it is highly preferable for the U. S. to have an immoral government in China than a hostile government, no matter how pure and moral, but dominated by Communist influences."

## TURN AGAINST US

The Chinese people, who think their country belongs to them, have other ideas. "Hostile" is what people become when you impose your own plans on them by arming tyrants. Henry A. Wallace on Nov. 24 explained that the Chinese "sooner or later will replace the present government. When they do, any debts incurred by Chiang Kai-shek will probably be repudiated. Additional aid for Chiang is an investment in enmity. We shall turn a great people, who should be our friends, completely against us."

Exhibit four is France. This country currently holds the record for nonsense written about it in the dollar press. John Foster Dulles, Republican foreign policy brain and bigshot in the Wall Street outfit of Sullivan & Cromwell, has just offered a strange deal to Gen. Charles De Gaulle, would-be right-wing French dictator.

He suggested that De Gaulle could have U. S. support if he not only smashed unions but agreed to the strengthening of west German independence unions.

## 880 New Unions Formed in Japan

Tokyo.—Japan's Ministry of Labor has announced that 880 new unions, with 132,294 members, were formed in September 1947 alone. Total figure for Japan is 25,060 union locals with 5,840,251 members. While there are two union centers in Japan—the Japan Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Unions—the bulk of members belong to independent unions.



Set up by big business boys to fight unions and run the nation for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, the National Association of Manufacturers has done a good job—for the NAM. With 1947 profits at an all-time peak of \$17½ billion, the NAM has opened a mammoth publicity campaign to prove that higher profits are not responsible for high prices. To jam this impossible view down the public throat, the radio, newspapers and all slick advertising media will be used. It's worth billions to the NAM to prove that black is white and it will spend millions to do the job. Starting from the lower left, around their great God, the Almighty Dollar, are top NAMsters: Lamont duPont, board chairman of E. I. duPont; Robert A. Watson, retiring NAM board chairman; F. C. Crawford of Thompson Products Co.; J. Howard Pew of Sun Oil Co.; John L. McCaffrey of International Harvester Co.; and Walter Fuller, publisher of the Saturday Evening Post.



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Carmel, California

## Farm Workers Real Pay As Low as in 1930s NFLU Delegates Assert

Little Rock, Ark. — Lashing out in a bitter attack upon the 80th Congress, the executive council of the National Farm Labor Union—AFL, reported to the opening session of the union's 14th annual convention that "the real wages paid to farm workers are now as low as they were at any time during the depression of the 1930's."

Meeting Dec. 12, 13 and 14, under the chairmanship of H. L. Mitchell, union president, 200 delegates, white and Negro, from all over the United States, unanimously approved the charges made by their executive council against Congress.

"The most severe blow struck at farm workers by the Congress came when it ordered the liquidation of all government housing projects for farm labor," stated the report.

"The first proposals advanced by the industrialized farm interests were for the federal government to sell the 56 permanent farm labor housing projects only to private associations of growers, and for the federal government to lend them money at low interest rates to purchase the farm workers' homes."

After pointing out that this proposal, incorporated in the Hope-Capper Bill, was too far for even the 80th Congress, the farm union executive council reported its efforts to gain support for the substitute measure introduced by Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas (R., Cal.), which had the support of the union. The Douglas bill is still pending.

The council stated that "One of the blackest marks on the record of the Congress of the United States" took place when "a compromise measure was quickly introduced and passed to permit the federal government to lease the farm labor housing to private associations of big farm operators and to sell all such housing before June 30, 1949. As a result, all of the farm labor camps built by the government for the use of farm workers and their families are now in the hands of the big farmers."

"The result has been that rents have greatly increased, health and sanitation services have been abolished, and all child care services are at an end. The workers who reside in these farm labor camps are at the mercy of the big farm operators."

In addition to discussing these problems, the executive council also took up the extension of social security benefits for farm workers; a wage and hour law for agricultural workers; a labor relations law for farm workers; the report of President Truman's Civil Rights Committee and the organizational progress of the union.

Forty-one towns in 10 southern states now employ Negro policemen.

**Japanese Umps Want Raise**

Tokyo. — Japan's professional baseball umpires have announced their intention to quit as a group unless their demand for an 80 per cent pay increase is met. They are also holding out for annual instead of seasonal payment.

Remember, Yellow and Checker Cabs, newly organized group. This firm is entitled to your patronage. Tell your friends when using a taxi call Yellow or Checker Cab Company in Salinas. In the event you are in Monterey call the San Carlos Cab Company.

When purchasing gasoline, oil, lube jobs, tires or wash job, patronize the Firestone Tire Service, Don Hultz and Rhoades Tires. These firms are 100 per cent union. Union members are employed by these firms.

Patronize union services; the only guarantee you have that the people are receiving decent wages and working conditions.

Pay your dues. Keep up your good standing in order to receive benefits from the Union.

Remember to VOTE IN '48.

C. B. GENTRY, GILROY  
Harvey Whitney, steward at the C. B. Gentry Company, is leaving for Oklahoma to resume farming. Harvey left his farm during the war, coming to California and since that time has been employed at the C. B. Gentry Company in Gilroy. The officers and members of Local 890 wish him the best of luck.

Dorothy Krueger, former member employed at the C. B. Gentry Company, is now operating Doc's Patio Service Cafe, one mile north of Gilroy. Members, drop in and see her.

Geraldine Horling, now Mrs. Aldon Larson, is back on the job after honeymooning at Olympia, Wash. Best of luck to you both.

Bud Kenyon, business agent, thanks the members that had their pot luck lunch. Sure was swell.

**GENTRY PLANT PARTY**  
An enjoyable event of Sunday night was the Christmas party given at the Holzhauser home on Prunedale Ave. by ladies of the mill room of the Gentry plant.

At six o'clock the guests found places at a long, colorfully decorated table to enjoy a delicious dinner which they had prepared. The

decor carried out the yuletide theme, the centerpiece being composed of an arrangement of fir twigs, pine cones and Christmas ornaments flanked by tall red tapers.

A beautiful birthday cake was cut in honor of Mrs. Adeline Guerra.

## With Local 890

GENERAL TEAMSTERS, WAREHOUSEMEN  
AND HELPERS' UNION  
LOCAL 890  
Monterey, County  
Main and John Streets  
Salinas, California

Although the Christmas Week has been a very busy one in our office your Union is not going to report on its activities for the week out of respect to the holiday season. We wish to advise all of our members of the importance of attending the next meeting of your Union to be held at Carpenters Hall on Thursday, January 8th; this change is brought about due to New Year's day falling on the regular meeting date. Nominations will take place at this meeting for two vacancies, vice president and trustee.

REMEMBER TO REGISTER NOW.

We wish to advise all our members of the importance of registering to vote when you pay your dues at the office of the union, if you will call for a certificate which will be issued by the girls in the office certifying that you are a registered voter. Carry this with you. Our constitution and by-laws provide that you become a registered voter.

Remember the primaries in June, the date line in order to register is April 14th, 1948. Every member of this Union, if eligible, must become a registered voter prior to April 14, 1948.

REGISTER NOW TO VOTE IN '48.

Your Union has allocated its office force as well as business agent duties: Glen E. Wilkerson is to take care of all plants in the southern part of Monterey County. Bud Kenyon to take care of the northern area. This will alleviate the duties of organizing and negotiation to Pete Andrade and Al Harris.

Your Union has employed Bettie Johnson to assist the office in the many duties allocated in order that our members are better served. The following personnel comprise the local union office at Main and John Streets: Frances Haynes, Bernice Redlin and Bettie Johnson; Business Agent and Secretary, Pete Andrade; President and Business Agent Al Harris; Recording Secretary and Business Agent Bud Kenyon, and Glen E. Wilkerson, business agent and in charge of the Monterey office.

Your Union expects to organize many fields coming within the jurisdiction of our Union in the year of '48. You can help your Union and in turn help yourself by assisting in this drive to take place in '48.

Your Union wishes to extend to all of its members in Monterey County, portions of San Benito and Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties, greetings and best wishes for the holiday season and that the year of '48 will be a more prosperous one for our members and their families.

VOTE IN '48.

Remember, Yellow and Checker Cabs, newly organized group. This firm is entitled to your patronage. Tell your friends when using a taxi call Yellow or Checker Cab Company in Salinas. In the event you are in Monterey call the San Carlos Cab Company.

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A beautiful birthday cake was cut in honor of Mrs. Adeline Guerra.

## Food Chain Sues L.A. Butchers for \$150,000 Damages

Los Angeles.—A \$150,000 damage suit was tossed at striking AFL butchers here December 8 by the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. with the help of the Taft-Hartley Act.

An A&P spokesman said he believed the case was the first of its kind filed by a retailer against a union under the new law. The claimed losses were suffered as the result of a strike which had kept the meat departments of 11 A&P stores here shut down since November 2, the company maintained.

Named in the suit is Local 421, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. The company asked the federal court for the right to seek additional damages later if the strike continued.

The A&P suit claimed that the only issue at dispute was the union's demand for a closed shop, which the company said it would not grant under the Taft-Hartley Act.

The NLRB has already met the company's request for an unfair labor practices complaint against the strikers.

## Schenley's Wins Anti-Union Injunction

New York.—Identifying a plentiful liquor supply with the "public welfare," the regional NLRB won a temporary injunction restraining Local 1, Distillery Rectifying and Wine Workers International Union (AFL) from continuing an alleged secondary boycott against Schenley Distillers Corp.

The order, returnable in five days, was the first injunction issued here under the Taft-Hartley act, which bans secondary boycotts. It was obtained in U. S. district court a week after NLRB general counsel Robert N. Donham told a meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers here that the injunction "is too powerful and sharp a weapon to be weakened and dulled by indiscriminate usage" and "must be reserved for those occasions when a substantial segment of the public welfare is at stake."


Schenley's petitioned the NLRB for the injunction, claiming that warehouse members of Local 1 were blocking the distribution of whisky supplies to local bars and stores in sympathy with a strike by members of the same union against a Schenley distillery at Frankfort, Ky. Union spokesmen said a direct labor dispute was involved in their refusal to handle Schenley products and announced they would appeal for a stay of the temporary injunction.

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## AFM Bans School Bands In Commercial Parades

San Diego, Calif.—Free use of school bands and drum corps in parades staged by commercial organizations has been ruled out in an understanding reached here between the board of education and Local 325, American Federation of Musicians (AFL).

The matter came to a head when a neighborhood businessmen's club asked for school participation in a parade described as a non-commercial, civic enterprise, but actually staged for the benefit of the neighborhood stores. The request was turned down.

600,000 TEACHERS QUIT  
Six hundred thousand teachers have quit the nation's classrooms in the last seven years for better-paying jobs, the American Federation of Teachers estimates.

Wherever there is excessive wealth, there is also in its train excessive poverty, as where the sun is highest, the shade is deepest.—Walter S. Landor.

## Ex-Nazis Reach South America from Europe

Caracas, Venezuela. — Public opinion here has been aroused by revelations of false passport factories in Germany, Sweden and Argentina which have enabled many Nazis war criminal suspects to reach Latin American countries. A commentator on the local radio station asks: "How is it possible for these individuals to escape vigilance in Anglo-American camps in Europe and come to our shores when there are thousands of Spanish republicans in whose path all sorts of obstacles are placed when they ask permission to enter Latin America?"

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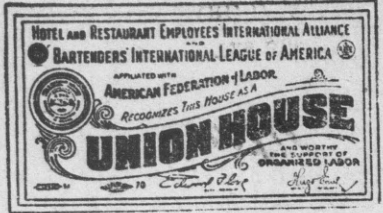
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## LOCAL 483 REPORTS



HOTEL AND RESTAURANT  
EMPLOYEES & BARTENDERS  
ALLIANCE 483  
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

The death of another 483 member was reported from San Francisco on December 9th. Brother Mike Marcus Moss, former cook at Casa Munras, passed away on that date. Mike had led a most interesting life, having been at one time the manager of the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, La. and a State Office appointee under the late Huey P. Long. His passing was noted throughout the country by the Associated Press.

The Christmas Party, held at the Union Hall on Sunday, December 14, was pronounced a huge success by the large group of members and their families who attended. During the entire time of the party, it is estimated that more than 400 persons dropped in for various lengths of time.

The large attendance, and the many compliments, were indeed a tribute to the hard working committee which planned and put on the party. Crystal Ross, chairman, Penny Caldwell (and both their husbands!), Johnny Midia, Lucille McNally, Mickey Bakke, Gale Anderson, Willie McKenzie (who spent most of the preceding night waxing the entire hall floor!), and several other conscientious members all worked mightily for the success of the affair.

Jimmy Brown contributed the tree (where did he get that tree?), and the girls of the committee, with the help of President Harvey and Johnny Midia (again!), decorated and fire-proofed the tree.

The cooperation of the "bosses" of the Monterey area was excellent throughout, also. The following firms and individuals contributed refreshments to the party: Card's, Brown Derby, Columbia Bar, Alvarado Inn, Kentucky Derby, Town House, Capitol Bar, McCa-Bar, H & H Lumber Co. (not wood, either!), My Attic, Blue Bell, Palm Garden, Biff's, Blue Ox, Anchor Bar, Keg, Cinnabar, Show Bar, San Carlos, Casa Munras, Peninsula Wine House, Domenic's (twice!), Halfway House, Techeau Inn, Waldorf, and Marotta's Liquor Store.

In addition... Many thanks to Tony and Harvey of the Rainbow, Cliff and Lorraine of El Nido Restaurant, and Eric and Marie of Derby Restaurant for making up the fine salads used on the buffet. And... no party is complete without music—so, many thanks to Nick Marotta and all the musicians of El Nido; to Mike and Art Marotta, with Mary Ann, and the other musicians of Cinnabar; to Barbara from Domenic's; to Jimmy Brucia of Show Bar for the use of the piano, and to Stan Douglas and Bud Giles for use of the juke box for "intermission" music.

A hearty "Thank You, and Mer-

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## COAL MINERS ARE 'ELITE' IN POLAND

By BOB TRAVIS

Katowice, Poland.—Coal Miners are today the "elite" of Poland. The economy of the country depends on coal. Miners are classified in the top category for wages, social services, priorities in housing, food, etc. New communities are springing up in the mining areas. Instead of the traditional dilapidated mine towns, Polish miners are now moving into new, modern homes with basement, bath and electricity.

Before the war miners were lucky if they worked three days a week. Now there are no layoffs and there won't be any. In prewar Poland children of 13 to 16 could be found working full-time in the mines. Now, to go below, a youngster must be 18 years old and have a specified amount of schooling. If an 18-year-old falls short, he can work only half-time and must attend school the rest.

I had a day-long interview with the leaders of the Miners Union, which has been responsible for many of the improvements. The union, with 350,000 members, is completely united, whereas before the war there were nine competing unions, representing a total of only 30,000 miners.

President of the union is 46-year-old Josef Szcesniak, a deputy in the Polish Parliament. He spent three years in the Myslowice concentration camp and before that, like every other member of the executive committee, he worked in the pits. Here are some of the results of mine union activity:

### FREE LUNCH

Each miner gets a free lunch every workday—soup, meat, potatoes, vegetables, bread and coffee. Miners have a yearly paid vacation, two weeks minimum up to one month after 10 years. The union runs 82 resorts where the members pay only one-third of the cost of food and lodging. The industry, social security and union pay the rest. Some Polish-born miners in the U.S. may remember swanky Zaccapane, in the mountains, where the union now has three resorts.

Medical and dental services, hospitalization and prescriptions are free under the new social security laws.

The union also runs resorts for miners' children. I visited Murzki, one of the 100-odd such spots, and found 134 happy schoolgirls who had gained from 6 1/2 to 17 pounds during the month's stay. The food is the best—milk, butter, eggs, meat, vegetables, bread and fruit. The miners reminded me that two years ago, when CIO leader Leo Krzycki visited them, all they could serve was bread.

Coupons for clothes, shoes, etc. are given to miners before any other category. A miner is eligible for the following per month: 48 pounds of bread, 11 pounds of butter, 4 1/4 pounds of kasha, 4 1/4 pounds of wheat, 4 1/4 pounds of sugar, 38 pounds of potatoes, 10 1/2 pounds of meat. All this can be bought with his coupons for 136 zloty. The same food would cost about 3,200 zloty on the open market. This food is just for the miner; his wife and children get separate allotments on a different basis. Children, for instance, get milk, butter, meat, eggs and candy.

Thousands of miners are earning from 16,000 to 18,000 zloty a month. Some get as much as 26,000 a month. All taxes, social security, health and accident insurance are paid by the industry without deductions from miners' pay.

### LOW-COST HOMES AVAILABLE

For one of the new, modern, prefabricated houses that are being imported from Finland, miners pay 90 zloty monthly. Old apartments cost a lot less.

If a miner is sick or injured, he gets 75 per cent of his wages for as long as he is off the job, plus five per cent additional for each child. For full disability as a result of accident he gets full pay as long as he lives. Union dues are one per cent of his wages, with no assessments.

The wages of the mine union president are set on the basis of what the miners earn. He receives 17,000 zloty per month. His allocations for food and clothing are like those of a surface worker. The general secretary and vice-presidents receive 12,000 zloty. Union President Szcesniak pointed out: "If more salary is paid, there is a tendency to forget the lives the workers live. And then you can no longer adequately represent them."

### VETERANS' CASES

Washington.—The Labor Department veterans' reemployment rights division had nearly 2,000 cases pending Dec. 1, it was announced here. During November, the division closed 612 cases, securing \$33,000 cash payment to veterans in lieu of reinstatement to jobs they held before entering the service.

The cost of living for moderate income families rose another 1.2 percent between July and August, reaching an all-time high for the third consecutive month.

## FRENCH WORKERS WIN RAISES, BONUS, FAMILY ALLOWANCES

By MARCEL DUBOIS

PARIS—France's month-long strike wave ended as the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) ordered two million workers to return to their jobs Dec. 10.

The CGT order followed a settlement of labor's demands on the following terms:

A monthly cost of living bonus of 1500 francs (about \$12) for all workers, including strikers, retroactive to Nov. 24.

An increase in the monthly minimum wage. Present minimum is \$38 and the CGT had demanded \$90. Settlement is expected to be around \$87.

Consideration of the CGT's demand for an overall economic policy relating wages to prices. The government rejected the CGT demand that wages be reviewed and brought in line with living costs every three months.

### STRIKERS RELEASED

Release of all jailed strikers except those found guilty of sabotage or of violating the new anti-strike law which makes it illegal to interfere with the "freedom to work." The latter provision makes it illegal to attempt to stop a scab from entering a struck plant.

Payment of family allowances to strikers and non-strikers alike.

The settlement gave the CGT virtually all its demands except for the 3-month wage review, full pay for strikers for the time they were out and release of all jailed strikers regardless of the reason for their arrest.

Many observers who had endeavored to prove that the strike had purely political motives interpreted the settlement as a complete defeat for labor. However, the record shows that workers' demands throughout the strike were economic ones and that they made substantial gains in the settlement.

### WORKERS PRAISED

Assessing its gains and losses in a statement accompanying the return to work order, CGT leaders praised the three million workers who had hit bricks for showing "an example of courage and tenacity. Against you they (the government) have employed all the means that reaction could put into effect. The police and army have been pitted against you. Thousands of injured and some dead must be written against the account of the government and its Minister of Interior."

Rejection of an earlier government settlement offer helped labor, the statement said. "For a further week you fought a hard battle against the government which did not hesitate to use any means and ordered its police to fire on strikers. This week of struggle has not been useless. The government had to abandon its first position and effect a retreat." The new concessions were pay-

ment of family allowances and cost-of-living bonuses for the time of the strike.

### SEE FUTURE THREAT

The statement warned of a "grave threat for the future" in the government's refusal to coordinate wages with prices and to cancel its anti-strike law. "We must," the CGT leaders warned, "regroup and rally our forces for the future battles, which will be bitter."

### WHAT PRICE JUSTICE?

Mayor James M. Curley of Boston is out of the lock-up as a result of Presidential commutation after serving a portion of a 6-to-18 months prison sentence which he received upon his conviction of using the U. S. mails to defraud. The sentence could have been as stiff as 47 years. We cannot enhance respect for judicial processes by letting the common citizen get an idea that there is one brand of justice for the everyday person and another for political celebrities and influential big shots. — St. Louis Union Labor Advocate, AFL.

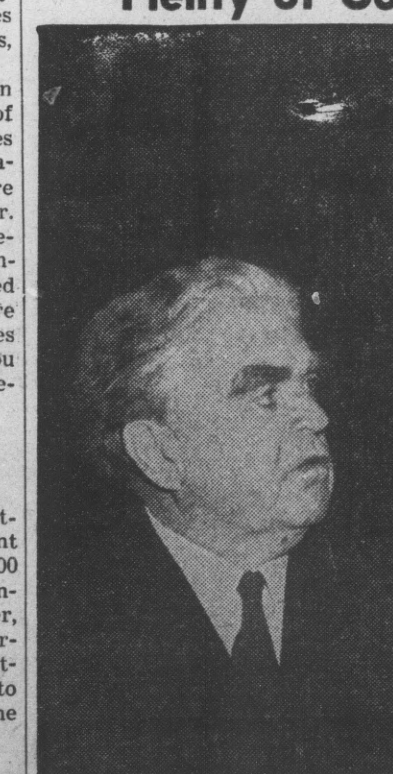
### State Court Rules Against Teamsters

Kansas City, Mo. — Missouri's supreme court has ruled that a union cannot refuse to handle non-union products. Such action, the court held, is restraint of trade in violation of state laws.

The decision, handed down in a case involving a local of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL), reversed a county court decision which had dissolved an injunction against the union. The lower court was instructed to enjoin the union.

### Plenty of Coal, Says Lewis

During his appearance before the Senate committee examining the threatened New England fuel shortage, President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers chats with Senator Owen Brewster (R., Me.). Stating that there is no coal shortage in the country, Lewis blamed present heating problems on the wave of conversions to oil.



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## House Prices Up 132 Percent Costs Double

Washington — While the cost of building a house has about doubled since 1939, on the basis of Federal Home Loan Bank figures, selling prices of houses have jumped 132 per cent—and this extra velvet is encouraging the present boom in construction.

The price tag on the average house being bought and sold in today's market is \$10,648 on a national basis. In 1939, this average was \$4,599, or somewhat less than half present prices.

In a monthly release of housing price data, the United Industrial Associates, a market research and engineering corporation, declared that Los Angeles is the most inflated market in the U. S. Prices of homes in Los Angeles have almost tripled since 1939, with the house that sold for \$5,377 in 1939 now going for \$14,817.

U. I. A. placed New York, Chicago and Boston in the "high priced market" level with homes that sold for \$6,000 in the prewar period being moved for \$12,000 to \$14,000.

Kansas City, Philadelphia and St. Louis are in the low cost housing category despite advances, with prices in the three cities ranging under \$7,500.

As an example of what is happening, the study cited a number of cities with comparative prices, which follow:

Average Price			
City	1939	Jun '47	Nov '47
Boston	\$5,558	12,300	13,150
Buffalo	4,968	7,947	8,955
Chicago	5,232	11,350	12,433
Cleveland	5,233	10,523	10,837
Detroit	4,445	7,548	7,939
Houston	4,445	7,548	7,939
Indianapolis	3,110	6,236	7,714
Los Angeles	5,377	14,289	14,817
Pittsburgh	5,294	9,122	11,148
San Francisco	4,210	9,980	11,008

### Per Cent Increase

City	Since '39	Since June '47
Boston	136.6	6.9
Buffalo	80.3	12.7
Chicago	137.6	9.5
Cleveland	107.1	3.0
Detroit	78.6	5.2
Houston	97.9	24.2
Indianapolis	133.1	23.7
Los Angeles	175.6	3.7
Pittsburgh	110.6	22.3
San Francisco	161.5	10.3

## Construction Drops 5 Pct. in November

Washington, D.C.—Construction activity underwent a less than seasonal decline in November, according to preliminary estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.

November expenditures for all types of construction were 5 percent under the revised estimates for October—the peak month for 1947.

Compared with November 1946, expenditures for new construction and repair work showed a gain of 26 percent. Activity during the month marked by a new high level in homebuilding and continued advance in commercial construction. Construction contractors dropped 42,500 employees in November. Nevertheless, their average employment for the month was only 3 percent under the postwar peak reached in September, and exceeded November 1946 employment by 8 percent.

Homebuilding expenditures reached an all-time monthly high in November. This new homebuilding in November accounted for 55 percent of all dollars spent and all workers employed on privately financed projects.

Since last May, expansion in commercial construction has continued to keep pace with housing. A 15-percent drop in the dollar volume of publicly financed construction resulted from decline in outdoor work normally affected by the onset of winter weather.

Expenditures for construction of hospital and institutional buildings and educational facilities remained at about the October level.

## U.S. Interest Abroad Has Dollar Basis

Washington. — Aside from the purely humanitarian reason in which millions share, the revival of American interest in foreign affairs and particularly in maintaining the political status quo in Europe has a financial basis.

The U. S. Treasury Department released a "Census of American-Owned Assets in Foreign Countries," which showed that total foreign assets owned in the U. S. on May 31, 1943, was \$13,542,000, of which \$8,886,000,000 was held by corporations and other profit organizations and \$1,106,000,000 by estate, trusts and non-profit groups.

Of the total U. S. investment, \$4,446,500,000 was in Canada, Newfoundland and French North America, and \$4,418,300,000 in Europe, of which \$1,027,600,000 was in Great Britain; \$1,079,800,000 in Germany and \$397 million in France. The Treasury said total U. S. investment in assets in the Soviet Union were \$13,300,000.

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